

PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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ADOPTION EFFECTIVE
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ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS

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Position Statement: Professional-Technical Education

Professional-Technical Education provides Idaho's youth and adults with the technical knowledge and skills, needed for employment in high wage, high skill or high demand jobs in current or emerging fields, or to continue their education. The foundation of professional-technical education is the technical training program which is part of a program of study that includes academic and technical courses. This sequence of courses integrates academic and industry standards and includes articulation between high school and college.

The scope of instruction ranges from career awareness and exploration at the middle school/junior high level to specialized skill development at the comprehensive high school, professional-technical high school and college levels.

A coordinated career guidance curriculum, with parental involvement, is key to providing students with the tools and services to assist them in making educational and career decisions. Counselors help students in self-assessment, knowledge of educational programs and knowledge of current labor market trends. Career guidance is at the forefront as students and parents consider student learning plans on a yearly basis, grades 8-12.

Professional-Technical Education Student Organizations (PTSO) are an integral part of the professional-technical education curriculum. These organizations help students develop employability and leadership skills. Students also learn community involvement, teamwork, critical thinking, problem solving and gain an increased awareness of the world of work.

The specific professional-technical programs offered in Idaho include:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Business & Office Technology
- Career Guidance
- Engineering and Industrial Systems
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Health Professions
- Marketing Education
- Technology Education

The Idaho State Curricular Materials Selection Committee recognizes the need to continually evaluate and reassess educational programs. As part of the evaluation process, the Committee reviews and adopts curricular materials for Professional-Technical Education.

Agricultural and Natural Resources – Allison Touchstone, Program Manager
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Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) programs prepare and support individuals for careers, build awareness and develop leadership for the food, fiber and natural resource systems.

The basic and most prominent industry in Idaho is agriculture. Agriculture and allied industries supply nearly half of Idaho's gross product and employ more than one-third of Idaho's labor force; while nationally agriculture counts for one in five jobs. Over 20 percent of the gross national product can be tied to the agricultural industry.

Idaho produces approximately 95 agricultural commodities which makes it a very diversified state. This intense and diverse production agricultural industry is supported by an equally diverse allied agribusiness industry; ranging from agricultural sales and service; processing and distribution to agricultural marketing, management, mechanics, and engineering. The allied industries are the major employers in the state.

Business & Office Technology - Angela Neal, Program Manager
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Business and Office Technology programs help prepare students for entry into and advancement in business and management careers. Students are able to select and apply the tools of technology as they relate to personal and business decision making. They develop the ability to participate in business transactions in both the domestic and international arenas. Students use accounting procedures to make decisions about planning, organizing, and allocating resources. They apply the principles of law in personal and business settings. Finally, students develop interpersonal, teamwork, and leadership skills necessary to function in diverse business settings.

Career Guidance – Kristi Enger, Program Manager
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Career Guidance programs offer schools the tools to assist students in making educational and career choices. Counselors are actively involved in guidance activities that assist all students in making career choices. They help students in self-assessment, knowledge of educational programs and current labor market trends.

Engineering and Industrial Systems – Harold Nevill, Program Manager
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Engineering and Industrial Systems (E&IS) programs mirror the technologies of today's industries by using advanced concepts and applications in an educational environment. These programs use state-of-the-art equipment and typically lead to industry certification. E&IS education prepares students for constantly changing careers that require a strong academic base combined with sound technical skills and the ability to transfer those skills in a constantly changing occupational setting.

Students are provided opportunities to master competencies under industry-established conditions in programs that meet national industry standards. The E&IS curriculum covers many diverse occupational areas, including: automated manufacturing, automotive service technology, broadcasting, carpentry, cabinetmaking, collision repair, diesel technology, drafting, electronics, environmental technology, graphic communications, journalism, law enforcement, photography, precision machining, small engine repair, and welding.

Family & Consumer Sciences - Nancy Walker, Program Manager
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Family and Consumer Sciences programs help to prepare students for success in employment and personal life as well as for a variety of careers in early childhood professions, food production and management, housing and interiors, apparel design and merchandising, hospitality and education, and human services. Students may apply their knowledge and skills to directly enter the workforce or to continue their education at a technical college or a university. Family and Consumer Sciences Education is designed to assist individuals in managing and balancing life in the home, community, and workplace.

Health Professions – SeAnne Safaii, Program Manager
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These programs prepare people for careers in health professions. Students at the secondary level are provided the opportunity to explore a wide variety of career options, learn some basic health care competencies and receive specific training in health fields offering technical certifications. Idaho's postsecondary programs expand options in a number of areas including nursing, surgical technology, dental assisting, health information technology, medical assisting and physical therapy assisting. A variety of short-term health care training programs are also available at each of Idaho's six postsecondary technical colleges.

Marketing Education – Angela Neal, Program Manager
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These programs provide classroom instruction and work-based experiences in marketing, business, management and entrepreneurship, communication and interpersonal skills, and economics. The following areas of study are presented in terms of their relationship to marketing of goods, services, or ideas: distribution, financing, marketing information management, pricing, product/service management, promotion and selling. Youth and adults are prepared for careers in sales, advertising, food and restaurant marketing, hospitality and tourism, sports and entertainment marketing, hotel and motel marketing/management and international marketing.

Technology Education - Monti Pittman, Program Manager
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Technology Education is a dynamic performance-based discipline providing students the opportunities to develop leadership, self-confidence, technical and academic knowledge. Using current technologies and processes, outcomes are achieved through interdisciplinary, action-based activities involving teamwork, problem solving, economic and environmental issues related to the future.